(b) if so, what is the outcome thereof;

(c) what precaution has been taken to see that the Forex remittance scheme is not used as a major tool to launder unaccounted rupee holdings by resident Indians by transferring the ownership of black rupee in exchange of foreign currency drafts to the possession of NRIs working abroad; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the nation is losing around Rs. 30,000 crore (about $ 1 billion) every year, on account of non-repatriation of foreign exchange because of hawala, which the importers, exporters and smuggling syndicates indulge in, if so, the steps taken to guard against the hawala transactions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Although no formal appraisal has been made, it is observed that the responses to the Schemes have been encouraging.

(c) The enforcement agencies book all those transactions which are in violation of FERA and take necessary action against the offenders under the law.

(d) There is no evidence to suggest that the Nation is losing around $ 1 Billion every year on account of non-repatriation of foreign exchange because of hawala transactions.

Cut in aid by Germany

1073. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Germany have announced that it will reduce aid to India because our defence expenditure is excessive; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir. However, according to some press reports, the Federal German Minister for Economic Cooperation has indicated that German development assistance to a few countries including India could be reduced on account of excessive military expenditure.

(b) In the view of the Government of India, non-economic considerations should not be imposed for determining the level of official development assistance. It has been further clarified that Indian defence expenditure as a percentage of its Gross Domestic Product is not high.

Memorandum submitted by employees of National Confederttion of R.R.Bs.

1074. SHRI R. S. NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a memorandum was submitted by the National Confederation of Regional Rural Banks employees to the working group on R.R.Bs.;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof

(c) whether it is also a fact that in the above mentioned memorandum, one of the demands was that the employees having the qualification of graduation may be promoted to clerical cadre, irrespective of number of years of service;

(d) if so, whether Government has taken any decision thereon; and

(e) if the reply to part (d) above be in the negative what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that the National Confederation of Regional Rural Bank employees have submitted a memorandum to the Working Group on RRBs constituted by NABARD.

(b) The memorandum submitted by the confederation relates to framing of staff regulations for all categories of Regional Rural Banks' Employees promotion and recruitment policy, promotion from one cadre to the next cadre, benefits/allo

ances for Regional Rural Bank employees at par with those admissible to employees of sponsor banks and other residuary matters in connection with the implementation of the award of the National Industrial Tribunal for Regional Rural Banks.

(c) In the memorandum it has, *inter-alia*, been suggested that sub-staff who acquire graduation qualification be promoted to clerical cadre irrespective of the number of years of service rendered by them.

(d) and (e) The Group is considering all the matters which stand referred to it.

पंजाब में बैंकों से धन ऐंठना

1075. **डा० रत्नाकर पांण्डेय :** क्या **वित्त मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 14 नवम्बर, 1991 के टाईम्स आफ इंडिया में प्रकाशित इस आशय के समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है कि पंजाब में कुछ बैंक उग्रवादी संगठनों को प्रति सप्ताह कुछ धनराशि दे रहे हैं ताकि व उनके आतंक से बच सकें ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दलबीर सिंह) : (क) बैंकों और भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने सूचित किया है कि अपने आपको आतंकवादियों के आतंक से बचाने के लिए साप्ताहिक आधार पर किसी प्रकार के भुगतान किये जाने की सूचना उन्हें नहीं दी गई है। पंजाब सरकार ने भी सूचित किया है कि इस प्रकार की किसी भी घटना की जानकारी सरकार को नहीं दी गई है।

(ख) प्रश्न पैदा ही नहीं होता ।

Representatives of SCs/STs and Minorities in Selection Committees/Boards

1076. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the instructions of the Government of India of August, 1990 for inclusion of representatives of SCs/STs and Minorities in the Selection Committees/Boards have been implemented by his Ministry;

(b) if so, what are the details of such bodies and organisations under his Ministry where the instructions have been implemented;

(c) what are the names of the bodies which have not implemented the instructions so far and the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government/institutions in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Quarters for IDBI Staff in Bombay

1077. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IDBI (Industrial Development Bank of India) has residential quarters for the bank staff at various places in Bombay city;

(b) whether it is a fact that all the staff have not been provided residential accommodation;

(c) if so, when will the accommodation be provided to all;

(d) whether it is a fact that it is Government's policy to encourage ISI mark equipments and electrical appliances;

(e) whether it is a fact that at the IDBI quarters in Ghatkopar, Bombay non-ISI water geysers are installed, which are dangerous; and